

Appl. No. 10/771,487
Amdt. Dated Nov. 22, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 12, 2004

REMARKS

The Examiner's appreciation and indication of allowability of claims 4, 5-6 and 12 are acknowledged.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As suggested and instructed by the Examiner, Claims 1, 4 and 7 have been amended where "a plurality of shielding metallic plates located between every adjacent two lines" originally described is replaced by "a plurality of shielding metallic plates located between adjacent lines".

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-3 and 7-9 (as best understood) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beaman et al. in view of Simmons et al. The Examiner specifically indicates that Beaman's shield plate is NOT FIXED to any portions of the neighboring lines (21, 22), only the ground conductor (25), and that "interference fit" of Beaman has no bearing on the claim language used by the applicant, and nothing in the cited art teaches away from the rejection of the claims.

Applicant can not agree with the Examiner's viewpoint and

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respectfully traverses it.

According to the foregoing statement made by the Examiner, it seems that the Examiner treats "interference fit" NOT to be or NOT being able to result in fixation between the shielding plate and the twinax lines. It is not a proper interpretation.

(I) Beaman clearly states that a metal termination clip (30) is attached to (emphasis added) the twinax wire (20) (column 5, lines 11-12 and 26-27). It means the clip (30) has an attachment relation with the twinax wire (20). On the other hand, claims 1 and 7 define the shielding plate being not fixed to (emphasis added) the two neighboring lines. According to the dictionary, the attachment and the fixation are synonymous with each other under this condition, both of which refer to the securement. Therefore, Beaman does NOT meet the claim language. Clearly claims 1 and 7 intentionally use the "negative limitations" to define over Beaman when filing this continuation application. Anyhow, if the Examiner believes the word "fixed" is not equal to the word "attached", the Applicant is willing to substitute it.

(II) From another viewpoint, it is noted that in Beaman the spirit of the structure and the assembling thereof is to initially have the metal clip (30) secured to the twinax wire (20) and have the drain wire (25) engageably received in the notch of the metal clip (30) for electrical connection, and successively assemble the metal clip (30) to the slot (66) in the printed circuit card (60) wherein the multiple slots (66) in the printed circuit card (60) are used to align the twinax wires (20) to the terminal pads

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(65) on the printed circuit card (60) corresponding to the length of the elongated portion of the metal clip (30) attached to (emphasis added) each of the twinax wires (20) (column 5, lines 20-24).

Accordingly, if the metal clip (30) has no securement/fixation/attachment to the twinax wire (20) but only to the drain wire (25), how can the metal clip (30) efficiently align the corresponding twinax wire (20) to the corresponding terminal pads (65), on the printed circuit card (60), located beside the slot (66) when the metal clip (30) is inserted into the slot (66)? Moreover, according to the drawings and the specification, it is very clear the drain wires (25) is receivably pressed to the closed end of the notch of the metal clip (30), and there is NO means showing that the drain wire (25) is fixed or attached to the metal clip (30) but only retained in the slot (66) because the metal clip (30) is essentially already fixed/attached/secured to the twinax wire (20). Thus, evidentially the metal clip (30) is attached/fixed/secured to the twinax wire (20) mainly on the whole front end area thereof as shown/disclosed in the drawings and the specification, rather than to the drain wire (25).

Based upon the foregoing reasons (I) and (II), it is believed that Beaman can not meet the claim limitations of claims 1 and 7. Claims 1-3 and 7-9 are believed to patentably distinguish over Beaman and in condition for allowance.

Claims 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Long at al. in view of Lin.

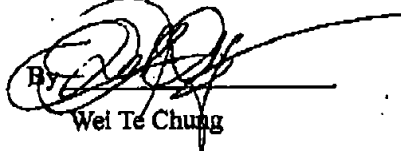
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As suggested and instructed by the Examiner, applicant has amended independent claim 10 to include all limitations of allowable dependent claim 12 thereto to put the application in the position of allowance. Claims 11 and 12 are canceled accordingly.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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